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NO. 0312--P. 16/19

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Application No. 09/651,889
Docket No. 740756-2205

REMARKS

The above amendment with the following remarks is submitted to be fully responsive to the Office Action of August 17, 2006. Reconsideration of this application in light of the amendment and the allowance of this application are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-24 are pending, of which claims 4-9 are presently withdrawn from consideration in the present application prior to the above amendment. Claims 18-20 are canceled and claims 25-45 are added. Therefore, claims 1-3, 10-17, and 21-45 are now pending in the present application and are believed to be in proper condition for allowance.

Referring now to the Office Action, claims 1, 11-16, 18, and 21-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Muragishi (U.S. Patent No. 5,436,184), previously cited. Claims 2, 3, 19, and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Muragishi as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of the Japanese patent [4]04152676A, previously cited. Claims 10 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Muragishi, as applied to claims 1 and 16 above, and further in view of the Japanese patent 2001028338, previously cited.

Applicants have modified independent claims 1-3 and 11-16 in order to clarify structural features by using a first region, a second region and a third region and in order to distinguish the present invention from Muragishi by adding a feature "a width of the third region is narrower than a width of the first region and a width of the second region".

In Figure 1(c) of the present invention, a first region, a second region 105, and a third region 102 are shown. In Figure 1(c), the third region 102 is narrower than the first region or the second region 105. In Muragishi, Figure 18 corresponds to Figure 1(c). Muragishi does not clearly show that the width of the third region is narrower than the width of the first/second regions. If the junction regions 15f of Figure 18 of Muragishi correspond to the third region 105 of Figure 1(c) of the present invention, the third region 15f of Muragishi does not have a convex or concave region in the direction perpendicular to the carrier flow direction (region 15f is not convex or concave shaped). Also, if the junction regions 15f and the channel region 15d of Muragishi correspond to the third region 105 of the present invention, the width of the third region (the channel region 15d)

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is not narrower than the width of the first/second regions 15e. Figure 18 of Muragishi discloses that the width of 15d and the width of 15e is the same.

Therefore, Applicants believe that the amended claims are patentably distinguishable over Muragishi. With respect to 103(a) rejections based on Muragishi in view of JP 4-152676 or JP 2001-028338, Applicants believe that neither JP 4-152676 nor JP 2001-028338 teach the feature "a width of the third region is narrower than a width of the first region and a width of the second region". In view of above, Applicants believe the amendments overcome the rejections.

Also Applicants have prepared new claims which recite that zero or one grain boundary is contained in the channel forming region (claims 25-30), that the number of grain boundaries crossing the channel forming region to the width direction of the channel is zero or one (claims 31, 32, 35, 36), that the number of grain boundaries crossing the channel forming region in the channel width direction is zero or one (claims 33, 34), and that the first region includes a source region and the second region includes a drain region (claims 37-45).

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

The undersigned would like to discuss these amendments with the Examiner. Thus, Applicants request an interview. The undersigned will contact the Examiner soon to schedule an interview.

Dated: April 30, 2007

Respectfully submitted,



Donald R. Studebaker
Registration No. 32,815

NIXON PEABODY LLP
401 9th Street, N.W., Suite 900
Washington, D.C. 20004-2128
(202) 585-8000
(202) 585-8080 (Fax)
Customer No. 22204